

Message Text

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60
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 SAJ-01 /080 W
----- 086531

R 061553Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6666
INFO COMICEDEFOR
CINCLANT
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USNATO 1485

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 1322

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, IC, US
SUBJECT: NEW STIRRINGS FROM IDF OPPONENTS

1. WITH KICKOFF OF ICELAND'S POLITICAL SEASON, OPPONENTS OF US MILITARY

PRESSENCE IN COUNTRY HAVE BEGUN NEW ROUND OF ACTIVITIES.

2. SO-CALLED MILITARY STATION OPPONENTS ORGANIZATION, FORMED LAST YEAR, HAS SCHEDULED SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR OCTOBER 16-17. THIS GATHERING HAS BEEN PRECEDED BY SERIES OF LOCAL MEETINGS AT DIFFERENT LOCATIONS AROUND COUNTRY.

3. ORGANIZATION IS HEADED BY SEVERAL PROMINENT IDF FOES, MOSTLY FROM COMMUNIST-DOMINATED PEOPLES ALLIANCE, WHO FOUNDED GROUP MAINLY AS RALLYING POINT FOR LIKE-MINDED ICELANDERS AT TIME WHEN DEFENSE ISSUE HAD LARGEY FADED FROM PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS AFTER SIGNING OF 1974 ICELAND-US MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING. WITH EXCEPTION OF INVOLVEMENT

IN ONE OR TWO ANTI-BASE ACTIVITIES IN PAST YEAR, GROUP DROPPED OUT OF UNCLASSIFIED

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SIGHT AFTER POORLY ATTENDED FIRST NATIONAL MEETING LAST OCTOBER.

4. ORGANIZATION MAY HOPE TO CAPITALIZE THIS YEAR ON ANTI-IDF/NATO FEELINGS LEFT OVER FROM COD WAR, ALTHOUGH ATTENDANCE AT PRE-LIMINARY LOCAL MEETINGS - EVEN BY SPONSORS' ESTIMATES - HAS NOT BEEN IMPRESSIVE.

5. MEANWHILE, PEOPLES ALLIANCE DAILY THJODVILJINN, IN OCTOBER 5 EDITORIAL ENTITLED "30-YEAR WAR," RECALLED "DARK DAY" IN 1946 WHEN ALTHING APPROVED CONTINUED USE OF KEFLAVIK AIRPORT BY US. THAT EVENT, PAPER SAID, ENDED BRIEF, BRIGHT PERIOD OF ICELAND'S TRUE INDEPENDENCE AND SINCE THEN, NO ICELANDER HAS BEEN THE SAME. PAPER THANKED THOSE WHO HAVE STRUGGLED TO RID COUNTRY OF IDF AND URGED CONTINUED FIGHT TO FINAL VICTORY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976REYKJA01322
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760377-0858
From: REYKJAVIK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761076/aaaacoif.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hackerp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by DuboseBM>; APPROVED <10 JAN 2005 by hackerp0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW STIRRINGS FROM IDF OPPONENTS
TAGS: MARR, PINT, IC, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006